

**NORFOLK, VIRGINIA**

**BUSINESS MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2016**

Mayor Fraim called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m. with the following members present: Ms. Graves, Ms. Johnson, Dr. Whibley, Mr. Protogyrou, Mr. Riddick and Mr. Smigiel. Mr. Winn was absent.

City Manager Jones reviewed the agenda, noting that Police Chief Michael Goldsmith is back to answer any questions that Council may have as well as provide information related to his last presentation. George Homewood and Adam Melita will give Council an update on the Sand Management Plan. In addition, he introduced and welcomed the new Chief Marketing Officer Brent Kelly.

Mayor Fraim thereupon called for the first item of business.

**A. COUNCIL INTERESTS**

1. Referencing an earlier request to meet with the auditor to examine the practices and culture of City Hall following the indictment of the Treasurer, Councilman Protogyrou noted the indictment included 17 paragraphs that dealt with Council business, NRHA business and City Hall business. He distributed copies of a letter he sent to the City Auditor asking for a review of 17 paragraphs and a report to Council so they can have a discussion.
2. Councilman Riddick asked to schedule a meeting with School Superintendent Dr. Boone, Deputy City Manager Ron Williams and the Southside Educational Committee at the Southside Aquatic Center to find out why the community was thinking one thing was going to occur with the new school that's not occurring.
3. Vice Mayor Williams Graves referenced a memo that was sent out regarding employees and expressed concern with the way the compensation plan is laid out because it's not clear and that it's not going to allow the city to retain or attract people who work for the city. She stated that none of the employees should have been left out in the first place and that some employees who received increases are having to pay

them back because they didn't qualify for the raise because of where they are on the pay scale.

She also commented on what she heard about Human Resources advising payroll clerks that they shouldn't tell people that they're nearing their pay scale ceiling, so they don't know that they won't be receiving a cost of living adjustment due to a stipulation in the compensation plan that prevents them from getting a cost of living adjustment or prevents them from getting a bonus. She stated that the entire compensation plan needs to be looked at and when they say employees are getting a raise every employee should get a raise and not some employees based on this qualification and that qualification.

4. Councilman Smigiel expressed concern with Liberty Tax dancing statue of liberty people out on the street corners spinning signs. He stated that he wants to know what code they are violating and, asked: 1) that they look into some kind of sign committee or code enforcement committee to focus on inappropriate signs in the Little Creek Road, Virginia Beach Boulevard and Military Highway corridors and 2) stated that the business signs and what they're adding to their signs and banners are getting out of hand.

## **B. CLOSED SESSION**

Motion for closed session was approved for purposes which are set out in **Clause 3 of subsection (A) of Section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act**, as amended:

- (3) Discussion of the disposition of publicly owned real property in the area in the downtown and Oakwood areas of the city.

Yes: Graves, Johnson, Protogyrou, Riddick, Smigiel, Whibley, and Frain.

No: None.

## **C. SAFE, HEALTHY, AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES REPORT**

Mike Goldsmith, Chief of Police reported as follows:

The Fair and Impartial Policing Workgroup (FIP) is a group of community stakeholders who meet to talk about and review policies and procedures to seek citizen input to help NPD build the police department with community involvement. The group is looking at all policies including use of force policies and to examine what can be done differently and where improvements can be made.

Cops and Curls is a new initiative to build public trust among underserved communities with young girls 6 to 12 years of age. It will pair girls with police officers for a safe and fun dance party similar to a prom-type of event.

The department is involved with many community partnerships, and is looking at implementation pathways for the President's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing Report.

The entire police department has been trained in active threat response and have been training since 1999. The department is ready to launch an extensive training effort to ensure they are current with all tactics and procedures. They have equipment available for the special operations team, including an armored vehicle used for officer and citizen rescue and a mobile command post ready to be set up when needed.

NPD has contracted with the International Association of Chiefs of Police for a complete staffing study of the Norfolk Police Department that will look at numbers of police officers, where they are deployed, shift schedules and the most efficient use of manpower. Regarding police pursuits, as a result of a study within the department a stricter pursuit policy will be implemented. More information will be provided at a later date.

#### **D. SAND MANAGEMENT PLAN**

George Homewood, Director of City Planning and Adam Melita, Deputy City Attorney, reported as follows:

Mr. Homewood stated that the process started 18 months ago where a number of residents of Cottage Line-East Ocean View had a desire to remove some of the sand that had been encroaching on their residential structures. The process to begin a sand management plan was developed so that citizens could work cooperatively to find solutions to the sand encroachment problem.

Mr. Melita reported as a result of the committee's work, solutions have been prepared for a more consistent and fairer approach to managing sand up and down the entire Ocean View corridor from the Little Creek Jetty to the end of Willoughby Spit. It will replace the piecemeal approach with a plan that is comprehensive and that puts citizens and the city in charge of the process instead of the State Dune Act Permit Process.

The plan addresses when and how sand replenishment can be done, how to repair breaches in the dune and how to deal with accretion of sand especially in the Cottage Line area where sand has accumulated and the dunes have grown. It sets out procedures for monitoring what is going on with sand, how it is moving and what procedures are working.

The principal agent of that monitoring process would be a new review board that would meet at least twice a year to review projects, review science, lidar data and other metrics of how the projects are working. The plan would essentially automate many of the processes internally and would not be using the Wetlands Board for any of those procedures that the city is undertaking. The next steps will be to bring a resolution to initiate the comprehensive plan amendments, which will result in public hearings and Planning Commission review of the plan.